

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

## Leesburg Electric & Gas Donates Rescue Service Vehicle to Fruitland Park

Leesburg and Fruitland Park understand cooperation as was evident this week when the Leesburg Electric and Gas Department donated a rescue service vehicle to the Fruitland Park Fire Department.

"We do business in Fruitland Park," explained Lloyd Shank, Leesburg's Director of Electric & Gas Departments, "and we care about our customers. It was a way for us to give something back to the community and to say thank you for doing business with us."

The City of Leesburg's Electric & Gas Department has been serving Fruitland Park for many years under a franchise agreement approved by the Fruitland Park City Commission. Recently, when the Department learned that Fruitland Park needed a vehicle to provide first-response medical treatment to its citizens, the Electric & Gas Department Staff asked, "how can we help?"

"They pay us a franchise fee for the right to do business in Fruitland Park," said Mayor Ron White, "but it is nice to know that they can be counted on to be good neighbors as well."

"The vehicle is very important to us because it enables us to carry more equipment to do heavy rescue work," Fruitland Park Director of Public Safety, J.M."Mark" Isom, Sr. stated. Isom added, "Our ability to respond to structural fires will be vastly improved."

Fruitland Park Fire Chief Thomas Gamble said, "This truck will be a great addition to the Fruitland Park Fire Department."

The Fruitland Park and Leesburg Fire Departments have an excellent working relationship through an inter-local agreement. "This vehicle will allow Fruitland Park Fire Service to be more productive, but it is also strengthening one of our partners," said Leesburg Fire Chief Dennis Sargent.

On hand to receive the keys to the vehicle were Mayor Ron White, Fruitland Park Fire Chief Thomas Gamble and Fruitland Park Director of Public Safety Mark Isom. Doing the honors of assisting Lloyd Shank in making the contribution were Mayor David Connelly and Leesburg Fire Chief Dennis Sargent.



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### Contact Information:

Marilyn Davenport  
Consultant  
City of Leesburg

501 W. Meadow Street  
Post Office Box 490630  
Leesburg, Florida 34749-0630

email: [mdavenport5@comcast.net](mailto:mdavenport5@comcast.net)  
phone: (352) 408-9535

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